inter-alia, includes institutional mechanism in the form of State Level Inter Institutional Committees, special rehabilitation cells in banks and State financial institutions and elaborate guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India for extending rehabilitation assistance to eligible units. Further, with a view to strengthen the SSI sector and enhance its competitiveness both domestically and globally, the Government has announced a Comprehensive Policy Package which consists of *inter-alia* enhanced fiscal and credit support, better infrastructural and marketing facilities and incentives for technology upgradation.

Based on the recommendations of the Working Group constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri S.S. Kohli, the then Chairman of Indian Banks' Association, the RBI has drawn up revised guidelines for rehabilitation of sick SSI units, which include *inter-alia* change in the definition of sick SSI units, norms for deciding on their viability, etc. The RBI has circulated the revised guidelines on 16th January, 2002 to all the Scheduled Commercial Banks for implementation.

(d) The Government does not provide any financial assistance to the State/Union Territories for rehabillitation of sick Small Scale Industries (SSIs).

Cyber Crimes

162. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been actively considering to set up a cell to check the growing cyber crimes;

(b) if so, whether the online offences have been increased during the past few months and the steps taken to check such crimes have proved ineffective; and

(c) the extent to which the setting up of cyber crime cell is going to check the growing online offences in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The Cyber Crime Investigation Cell is already functioning in Central Bureau of Investigation since year 2000. It is investigating cases

pertaining to cyber crimes. No increase in online offences has been noticed in the past few months.

Guidelines of E-Readiness

163. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have constituted a Committee to draft guidelines for preparing a report on the e-readiness of all States, Union Territories and Government Departments;

(b) if so, whether Government would also initiate to exercise, and facilitate the smooth development of e-readiness tools in strategic sectors, departments and regions across the country;

(c) whether Government have pointed out that digital language was an important strategic linkage not only between people but it was a key catalyst in enhancing productivity as well as providing employment opportunities; and

(d) if so, by when this Committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SANJAY PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The above Committee would deliberate on this issue.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Committee is scheduled to submit its report four months from the date of commencement of its work.